374. **Mr. C. A. Ouseph.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have considered that it is possible to cut down expenditure on "traffic control" by placing the force for traffic control under the direct supervision of the D. S. Ps. and that in that eventuality that force may be reduced?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The matter will be considered.

Assistant Engineer—Panchayat works.

375. **Mr. C. A. Ouseph.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have abandoned their idea of appointing an Assistant Engineer to look after, supervise and be in charge of Panchayat works; if so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the abandonment or change; will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for not yet appointing Assistant Engineer for the purposes afore-said?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—The idea has not been abandoned. The appointment had to be deferred in view of the financial stringency.

Allegations—Trichur Civil Hospital.

376. **Mr. George Chakyamuri.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to an article in the Gomathi subscribed to by Mr. P. Chandrsekara Menon, B. A. & B. L., Municipal Councillor, making reference to certain alleged scandals about the Trichur Civil Hospital and accusing the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer of inaction in the matter;

(b) whether Dr. A. R. Poduval is not the present Civil Surgeon of the Trichur Civil Hospital;

(c) whether they are aware of the fact that the said Mr. P. Chandrasekara Menon, B. A. & B. L., is the direct brother-in-law of the Civil Surgeon Dr. Poduval?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Government Schools—Classes—Strength, etc.

377. **Mr. Joseph Pettah.**—Will the Government be pleased to furnish a list showing:—

(a) the number of Government schools (excluding Industrial Schools, in the State in 1106;

(b) the number of classes in each school, and divisions, if any, to each class;

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(c) the number of such classes or divisions with:—

(i) less than 30 but more than 20 students; } in the case of Boys' Schools.
(ii) less than 20 students;

and with

(i) less than 20 but more than 10 students: } in the case of Girls' Schools.
(ii) less than 10 students.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) 166

(b) The question cannot be answered as the statistics will be varying from time to time.

(c) Vide answer to question (b).

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—May I know the statistics in connection with the year 1106 ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I am sorry that all these have not been collected. I shall collect the information from the different schools and classes.

Regarding tenders for works given on contracts by the Panchayat Registrar.

378. **Mr. P. Raman Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Panchayat Registrar calls for tenders before he lets works on contract;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, does he fix the place, the date and the time for opening the tenders in the notifications calling for the same;

(c) if not, why it is not done so;

(d) are the tenders generally opened in the presence of those who have submitted tenders?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Because they are generally opened in the office and this fact is generally known to the contractors.

(d) If any of the contractors or their agents are present, the tenders are opened in their presence.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—(b) May I know what is the practice obtaining in other departments ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—So far as I know the same procedure is followed in other departments also.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Is it the practice that they do not give the date and time when they are to open the tenders?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—So far as I have seen, I have not seen the date published in the Gazette.

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